

1 POWER CONSERVATION IN COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

2 Abstract of the Disclosure

3 Components of an Ethernet communication system are placed in low power modes when
4 such low power modes are feasible and permitted. The auto-negotiation next page feature of the
5 Ethernet standard is utilized to exchange signals indicating that both ends of the system are
6 capable of a low power mode. If capable and conditions for low system power usage permit, then
7 the auto-negotiation feature is used to signal the eligibility of both ends of the system to enter a
8 low power mode at which time the low power mode is activated. The system remains in the low
9 power mode until data is to be transmitted.